



Kansas Mentors Connection
March 2010

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US DEPT OF JUSTICE'S OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE & DELINQUENCY PREVENTION RELEASES GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Strategic Enhancement to Mentoring Programs This solicitation invites eligible applicants to propose evidence-based enhancements that focus on one of three strategies: (1) involving the parents in activities or services, (2) providing structured activities and programs for the mentoring matches, and (3) developing and implementing on-going training and support for mentors. Application is due on April 14, 2010.

Link: <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/funding/FundingDetail.asp?fi=167>

National Mentoring Programs This solicitation invites eligible applicants to propose the enhancement or expansion of initiatives that will assist in the development and maturity of community programs providing mentoring services to high-risk populations that are underserved due to location, shortage of mentors, special physical or mental challenges of the targeted population, or other analogous situations identified by the community in need of mentoring services. Application is due April 22, 2010.

Link: <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/funding/FundingDetail.asp?fi=171>

Multi-State Mentoring Initiative This solicitation invites eligible applicants to propose the enhancement or expansion of initiatives that will assist in the development and maturity of community programs to provide mentoring services to high-risk populations that are underserved due to location, shortage of mentors, special physical or mental challenges of the targeted population, or other analogous situations identified by the community in need of mentoring services. Application is due April 22, 2010.

Link: <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/funding/FundingDetail.asp?fi=172>

FINANCE PROJECT RELEASES BRIEF ON FINANCING STRATEGIES FOR YOUTH-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS

This brief highlights strategies that successful youth-serving organizations are using to maintain quality services despite difficult economic times. Drawing on interviews with leaders of 17 successful youth programs, the brief illustrates how organizations have aggressively managed costs, creatively generated new revenues, and created partnerships to mitigate the effects of funding cuts. Download the brief now at:

<http://www.financeproject.org/publications/CuttingCostKeepingQuality.pdf>

A webinar highlighting the brief has tentatively been scheduled for **Tuesday, April 6, 12:00 pm , EST**. For more information visit: <http://www.financeproject.org/>

MENTOR TO HOST SECOND ELEMENTS OF EFFECTIVE PRACTICE WEBINAR

Join MENTOR for an upcoming webinar on the recruitment and screening operation standards from MENTOR's newly revised *Elements of Effective Practice for Mentoring*, third edition. The webinar will address the recommended benchmarks and enhancements to include: recruitment strategies that include managing realistic expectations and the importance of screening procedures, such as written applications, face-to-face interviews and criminal background checks. Nationally recognized researchers will be featured including: Dr. Renee Spencer, Associate Professor at Boston University School of Social Work.

The webinar will be held on **Monday, March 29** from 1:00 - 2:30 pm, EST. Register at: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/825160953>

For more information visit: <http://www.mentoring.org/elementswebinars>

SafetyNET BACKGROUND CHECKS SYSTEM EXTENDED THROUGH MARCH 2011

On March 1, 2010 President Obama signed the bill to extend the Child Safety Pilot, SafetyNET, through March 31, 2011. This allows MENTOR to resume operating SafetyNET, a fingerprint-based national criminal background check system, at full capacity. Over the next 14 months, MENTOR will continue to work to pass the Child Protection Improvements Act (S. 1598/H.R. 1469) which would create a permanent background check system for youth serving organizations to check potential volunteers and employees. This legislation would ensure that checks are done in an affordable and timely manner, and help ensure that mentors are safe and appropriate. For more information about SafetyNET visit: <http://apps.mentoring.org/safetynet/>

Be a role model. Be a mentor. www.KansasMentors.org

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